

**Decision Record for the  
Short Lake Juniper Treatment and Prescribed Burn  
Environmental Assessment  
EA # OR-014-01-10**

**Introduction**

The Short Lake Juniper Treatment and Prescribed Burn project is designed to improve and maintain rangeland health. The project involves reintroduction of fire, by the way of a prescribed burn, into a plant community that evolved with fire as an integral part. The main purpose for the reintroduction of fire is to restore and maintain the vegetative composition and structure of this community. This project is also designed to restore rangeland health by using manual methods for removing invasive western juniper from plant communities it previously did not occupy.

**Decision**

My decision is to implement the Proposed Action (Alternative 1), including all “Project Design Features and Mitigating Measures” described in the Short Lake Juniper Treatment and Prescribed Burn Environmental Assessment (EA # OR-014-01-10). This alternative proposes treatment of juniper by hand-felling methods on approximately 215 acres. The cut juniper would be piled or slashed, and burned at a later date. Burning of the cut/piled juniper would be done at appropriate times considering the weather, fuel loading, and other site-specific factors. All “old-growth” juniper will be protected and retained (see Project Design Features (PDF) section for more details). Currently public access to the area is limited, but if proper access is gained through cooperative agreements with private landowners, the juniper may be available to be utilized by the public.

**Mitigation**

Mitigation as described in the “Project Design Features and Mitigating Measures” section of the Proposed Action (EA, pp 13-14) will be implemented in order to protect those resources that may be affected by the Proposed Action.

**Decision Rationale**

The objectives of reintroducing fire into an ecosystem that evolved with fire as an integral part and restoring the shrub-steppe community can best be met by implementation of Alternative 1. This will involve the removal of invasive western juniper within the project plan area by mechanical and manual methods and conducting prescribed fire operations, and potentially planting native shrubs and grasses. The impacts created by the above decision do not require further analysis as noted in the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The Environmental Assessment and FONSI were sent out and made available for public comment and review for a period of thirty (30) days. The comment period advertisement was published in the Herald and News on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2002. No comments were received on the Environmental Assessment or FONSI.

The decision is consistent with the goals and objectives of the:

Klamath Falls Resource Area Management Plan and Record of Decision (RMP ROD, June 1995)

Klamath Falls Resource Area Fire Management EA (OR-014-94-09)

Klamath Falls Resource Area Integrated Weed Control Plan EA (OR-014-93-09)

**Administrative Remedies**

This Decision Record constitutes the "decision document" for purposes of appeal. Any party may appeal the decision in accordance with the provisions of 43 CFR Parts 4.4.

*Do Not Appeal Unless*, 1. This decision is adverse to you, *and*, 2. You believe it is incorrect.

Within 30 days file a *Notice of Appeal* in the office that issued this decision (see 43 CFR Secs. 4.411 and 4.413). You may state your reasons for appealing, if you desire.

The *Notice of Appeal* must state if a "stay" of the decision is being requested and must be filed with:

Klamath Falls Resource Area Manager,  
Bureau of Land Management,  
2795 Anderson Ave., Building 25,  
Klamath Falls, OR 97603

Copies of the Notice of Appeal should be sent to:

Regional Solicitor,  
Pacific Northwest Region,  
U.S. Department of the Interior,  
Lloyd 500 Building, Suite 607,  
500 N.E. Multnomah Street,  
Portland, OR 97232

and:

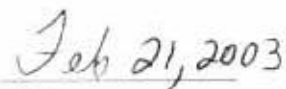
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Hearings and Appeals  
Interior Board of Land Appeals  
801 N. Quincy St., Suite 300  
Arlington, VA 22203

Within 30 days of filing the Notice of Appeal file a complete statement of the reasons why you are appealing. It should be sent directly to Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), with a copy to Regional Solicitor, and Resource Area Manager. If a Statement of Reasons is not included in the Notice of Appeal or not filed separately, the appeal is dismissed. It is suggested that any notice of appeal be sent certified mail, return receipt requested.

Before deciding to file an appeal, I encourage you to contact me to determine if your concerns might be met in some way other than via a protest, or to assist you in the protest process if it is appropriate. Thank you for your continued interest in the multiple use management of your public lands. This notice constitutes the decision notification for purpose of protests under 43 CFR subpart 5003 B, Administrative Remedies.



Teresa A. Raml, Manager  
Klamath Falls Resource Area  
Lakeview District, BLM



Date